

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

COLLECT

DRAFTED BY SCA/SCS:MLTIPTON:BB

APPROVED BY SCA/SCS:JALIVORNESE

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R 282241Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO REV CLARENCE HIGGINS 1018 GLIDDEN AVE

DEKALB ILL 60115 (COLLECT)

UNCLAS STATE 189462

E.O. 11652:

TAGS:

SUBJECT:

FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY BEIRUT,
FOR YOU: QUOTE CONSULAR OFFICER VISITED MR. EDWARD KELLER-

MEYER AUG. 28 AT SANDS PRISON, BEIRUT WHERE HE IS BEING
HELD IN PRE-TRIAL DETENTION ON CHARGES OF NON PAYMENT OF
HOTEL BILLS AT HOLIDAY INN OF APPROXIMATELY \$1,800
AND PHOENICIA HOTEL OF APPROXIMATELY \$2,100 AND AN OVER
DRAWN CHECK ST THL BRITISH BANK OF MIDDLE EAST FOR
APPROXIMATELY \$20,000. THERE IS ALSO POSSIBILITY THAT OTHER
CHARGES WILL BE BROUGHT THAT WOULD RAISE TOTAL CLAIMS
AGAINST HIM TO AS HIGH AS \$70,000 BY MR. KELLERMEYER'S
OWN ESTIMATION.

HE IS PRESENTLY IN GOOD HEALTH AND SPIRITS AND CLAIMS TO
HAVE LOCAL FINANCIAL BACKER WHO WILL SETTLE FOR HIM.

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SINCE HE REFUSES TO DIVULGE BACKER'S IDENTITY, CONSULAR
OFFICER VALERGA CANNOT VERIFY HIS EXISTENCE BUT MUST VIEW
IT WITH SKEPTICISM.

AT PRESENT, DUE TO ABOVE MENTIONED BACKER, MR. KELLERMEYER
IS NO LONGER ASKING FOR FAMILY ASSISTANCE BUT THIS
COULD CHAANGE.

HE IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN IN DETENTION UNTIL SOME
SETTLEMENT IS REACHED OR HE IS BROUGHT TO TRIAL. DEVELOP-

MENTS WILL BE REPORTED AS THEY OCCUR. UNQUOTE.
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SPECIAL CONSULAR SERVICES, DEPART
MENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, D. C. KISSINGER

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